REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-7 and 9-13 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1, 3, 5 and 13 are amended, and claims 2 and 8 are canceled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter. Reconsideration in view of the above amendments and following Remarks is respectfully requested.

Applicant gratefully appreciates the courtesy extended to Applicant's representative during the June 29, 2004 with Examiner Wilson. The points discussed during the personal interview are re-emphasized in this Amendment.

Entry of the amendments is proper under 37 CFR §1.116 since the amendments: (a) place the application in condition for allowance (for the reasons discussed herein); (b) do not raise any new issue requiring further search and/or consideration (since the amendments amplify issues previously discussed throughout prosecution); (c) do not present any additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims; and (d) place the application in better form for appeal, should an appeal be necessary. The amendments are necessary and were not earlier presented because they are made in response to arguments raised in the final rejection. Entry of the amendments is thus respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-13 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Swoboda (U.S. Patent No. 5,828,824). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

In particular, Swoboda does not disclose or suggest a microcomputer, including at least a debugging terminal connected to a communications line for transferring debugging information, that is used for on-chip debugging, to and from an external debugging tool, and a switch that switches a central processing unit from a user mode to a debugging mode when a forced break is input through the debugging terminal that is not used in the user mode, except for inputting the forced break, as recited in independent claim 1, and similarly recited in independent claim 13.

The Office Action admits that the two <u>additional</u> terminals nET1 and nET0 are used for testing and <u>not</u> during normal mode. See also page 6, paragraph 16 of the Office Action.
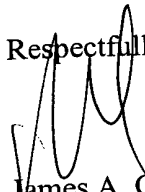
In contrast to the claimed invention, Swoboda does not disclose or suggest at least a debugging terminal connected to a communications line for transferring debugging information, <u>that is used for on-chip debugging, to and from an external debugging tool</u>, and a switch that switches a central processing unit from a user mode to a debugging mode when a forced break is input through <u>the debugging terminal that is not used in the user mode, except for inputting the forced break</u>. On the contrary, Swoboda does <u>not</u> disclose the use of the terminals nET1 and nET0 in the user mode. In fact, Swoboda is silent about using debugging terminals in a user mode only to input forced breaks <u>and</u> also using the debugging terminals in a debugging mode. Because Swoboda fails to disclose these features, Swoboda does <u>not</u> <u>reduce</u> the number of terminals necessary for debugging and ensure that a large number of common terminals can be utilized by the user to reduce manufacturing costs.

Because Swoboda fails to disclose each and every feature as the claimed invention, it is respectfully requested that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1, 3-7 and 9-13 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further is desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: December 15, 2004

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